



A MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER TO THE 61st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
(Including Chino, Montclair, Ontario and Pomona)

JUNE 2005 ISSUE

Dear Friend,

It has been a very busy few months for everyone in my office. I have held numerous events that everyone in our office, as always, worked very hard on, including my inaugural "Breakfast Club" held at the Ontario-Montclair Teachers Association headquarters.

The event was a huge success with standing room only. More than 60 people representing business, public safety, labor, education, non-profits and others attended. My goal is to invite state lawmakers from both sides of the political spectrum to speak at each event. State Treasurer Phil Angelides was my first guest speaker. The Treasurer spoke about the state budget and the need to balance it with a mix of cuts and revenues.

Attorney General Bill Lockyer was the featured guest for the second breakfast with 60 people in attendance. The event was held at the YMCA in Ontario and very well received. The Attorney General spoke on many issues that affect the State of California.

Here are other District events that I sponsored:

A "Community Jobs Fair" at the Anthony Muñoz Center in Ontario, which went well. Although we were very busy, I was able to break away long enough to visit with the youngsters in the center's preschool program.

A Chino "Kidprint." Chino Police officers fingerprinted 155 children. The Red Cross handed out coloring books, the City of Chino gave away stickers and Chino Community Services' Healthy Choices program reps gave out free balloons to children who could answer questions about healthy living.

An "Informed Young Drivers Seminar," to educate young adults the rules of the road, the dangers of street racing, the laws regarding modifications and more. The Ontario Police Department and CHP were among those who graciously provided information.

A "Homebuyers Expo" that State Senator Nell Soto joined me in hosting. Representatives from all phases of the home-buying process were on hand to answer questions in a setting where there was no pressure to buy.

A "Health Fair" at Ganesha Park in Pomona at the Juneteenth Celebration.

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-----In Memory of Ineasie Baker-----



In 1996, California Youth Authority Correctional Counselor Ineasie M. Baker was viciously attacked and killed by an inmate at the Herman G. Stark Youth Training School in Chino. I never forgot about this courageous, dedicated woman and felt it was time to recognize her sacrifice.

I introduced a measure (Assembly Concurrent Resolution 63) that, if approved by the legislature, will designate a portion of State Highway Route 60 as the "California Corrections Youth Authority Counselor Ineasie M. Baker Memorial Freeway." The memorial will include the portion of the 60 west of the westbound onramp from Milliken Avenue to Euclid Avenue, with identifying signs facing in each direction.

As required by state law, the four freeway signs will be paid for by private donations.

Baker was highly respected by her coworkers, who described her as a dedicated and inspirational counselor whose primary concern was the inmates.

Sometimes the public forgets that correctional and youth authority officers like Ineasie Baker put their lives on the line everyday in the name of public safety. I hope that this tribute will remind us of these everyday heroes.

Ineasie M. Baker 1953- 1996

Ineasie Baker was born October 12, 1953 in Keachie, Louisiana and moved with her family to Los Angeles when she was 17 years old. She graduated from California State University, Fullerton, and worked in the private sector for more than ten years before becoming interested in criminal justice.

After graduating from the Corrections Academy she became a correctional officer and was later promoted to counselor. She worked for the California Youth Authority for 13 years.

Baker is survived by husband Donald Baker; daughter Tiffany; step-daughter Stephanie; granddaughter Bria Ineasie Boone; grandsons Dominic Cloy and Kelvin and Qualie Ownes; and parents Mary and Fred D. Maxie.

Upcoming District Events

27TH Annual Dairy Tour and Festival

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 4
WHERE: Chino Fairgrounds, Central and Edison avenues

For more info: (909) 627-6177
www.chinovalleychamber.com

JUNETEENTH

WHEN: 10:00AM-6:00PM Sat., June 18th
WHERE: Ganesha Park, 1575 N. White Avenue, Pomona, CA

Across from the Pomona Fairplex
For more info: (909) 621-9707
www.juneteenthamerica.us

Welcome to the 16th Annual Juneteenth Celebration, Job Fair!
California State Juneteenth National Freedom Day Observance and
Assemblywoman Gloria Negrete McLeod's
Neighborhood District Office Hours
and FREE Kid's Health Fair

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

2005

1865 June 18th • Juneteenth

Saturday, June 18th 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

at Pomona's Ganesha Park, 1575 White Avenue

(Corner of White Avenue and McKinley Avenue, across from the Pomona Fairplex)

Delicious Southern Cooked Foods...

*Barbecue, Chicken, Waffles,
Cajun Catfish, "Mama's"
Peach Cobbler, Hotdogs,
Hotlinks and much more!*

***FREE Concert and Live
Music all day*** on two sound
stages presenting Jazz, Gospel,
Poetry, Rhythm and Blues,
Comedy and Arts & Crafts

***The new season's
Grand Opening Pool Party***
for Ganesha Park's Community
Pool, along with free Contests,
Raffles and Giveaways all day long.

***FREE Coloring Books, FREE
Stickers*** and plenty of information
about state government programs
and services for Californians.

Many Community Organization
booths and displays with both fun
and helpful information.

Kids & Health Fair Neighborhood District Office Hours from 10 a.m to 1 p.m.

***FREE Diabetes Screenings,
FREE Asthma Screenings,
FREE Dental Screenings,
FREE Blood Pressure Checks
and much more*** from First 5 LA
and many other Community Medical
Providers such as the American Diabetes
Association, American Cancer Society,
Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center,
and the South Coast Air Quality
Management District.



State issues & Serious fun!

For more information, please call the 61st District office
at 909-621-2783 or Event Coordinators at 909-621-9707.

AB 466 to eliminate gag clauses from civil settlements; will protect Californians from unscrupulous and incompetent professionals

Gag clauses designed to prevent victims from discussing their cases with state regulatory agencies have been a useful tool for incompetent and unscrupulous professionals to conceal their malfeasance. These types of agreements undermine public protection and are contrary to good public policy.

That is why I have introduced Assembly Bill 446, a measure which will prohibit the use of gag clauses in the settlement of civil lawsuits against professionals licensed by the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

Consumer Affairs regulates dozens of professions including physicians, accountants, dental hygienists, contractors, mental health professionals, engineers and more.

The department is responsible for licensing, establishing minimum qualifications and levels of competency for licenses, enforcing the standards, investigating misconduct of those under its jurisdiction and revoking, suspending or restricting licenses when warranted.

However, some defendants in professional misconduct or malpractice cases have required plaintiffs, as a condition of settlement, to agree to gag clauses that prohibit them from contacting or cooperating with regulators. By doing so, Consumer Affairs may never find out about a cosmetic surgeon who botched an operation, a dentist who extracted a healthy tooth, a long-term health facility guilty of providing substandard care or a doctor whose negligence caused a patient harm. Resulting often times that these professionals are then free to continue harming the public.

Gag clauses are already prohibited in legal malpractice settlements. A number of court decisions have held that there is a compelling public interest in voiding gag clauses to protect the public from harm. Yet the use of these gag clauses persists and are sometimes used to intimidate injured victims to prevent them from testifying against the licensee.

The secrecy inherent in the use of gag clauses increases the costs to taxpayers, delays action by regulators and can hurt the reputation of competent and reputable licensed professionals. California should do what it can to prevent repeat offenders from injuring patients and cheating consumers and allowing them to hide their illegal acts from government investigators.

For the public's protection we need AB 446.

Area residents honored

The Publishers and the Publishers' Advisory Board Members of the **Inland Valley News** honored the winners of the 8th Annual Celebration of Excellence Awards at a luncheon in Ontario April 28. The awards luncheon celebrates the hard work and dedication of individuals and organizations that make important contributions to our community.

The winners are Lifetime Achievement - Robert and Sylvia Walker; Corporate Community Award - Sheri Stuart, General Motors Regional Communications; Agency Award - Maritca Tona, Foothill AIDS Project; Publishers' Choice Award - San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, 5th District, Josie Gonzales; Broadcast Media - Beverly White, NBC4; Entrepreneur of the Year - Dr. Rosie Milligan; African American Journalist Award - Cheryl Brown, Black Voice News; Business - Vernon Ware; Elementary Education - Deborah Barber; Secondary Education - Stephanie Baker; Post Secondary Education - Linda Lee-Smith; Community Service - Paula Brown; Youth - Brenda Simms; Religion - Rev. Dwight Peace; Customer Service - Roy Mabry; Corporate Leader - Jo Ann Newton; Civic - Leonard E. Robinson; Sports - Eric Anderson; Law - Denise McLaughlin-Bennett Esq.; Medicine - Effay Harris D.D.S.

Assemblymember Negrete McLeod's Committee Assignments

Chair, Business and Professions Committee
Co-Chair, Legislative Ethics Committee
Governmental Organization Committee
Health Committee

Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions and Consumer Protection

Chair, Select Committee on Alameda Corridor East

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Or visit my website at www.assembly.ca.gov

Please check out our on-line legislative survey!

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